

NBC BRIEFING

18 November 1955

FRENCH ELECTORAL SITUATION

- I. Chances reduced for French National Assembly elections before Spring:**
 - A. Tactical maneuver in assembly prevents Premier Faure from pressing directly for immediate decision on date:**
 - 1. Majority of deputies (339-270) blocked further debate on electoral reform until Faure presents redistricting plan, which could lead to unlimited delay through debating and amending.**
 - B. Faure, nevertheless, reported seeking to reintroduce electoral question on assembly agenda.**
 - C. If assembly balks this move, resignations from cabinet may oblige Faure to resign.**
 - D. Faure may pose vote of confidence on general government policy:**
 - 1. Defeat by constitutional majority would permit dissolution.**
 - E. Even if he should win a confidence vote on electoral issue, he would probably again run into trouble from the council.**

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